



Vocabulary Power



Lesson 35 Using Synonyms

Each day unfolds as a mystery. What situations will you face? What positive or negative influences will affect your life? How will you react to those still unknown events or influences? What tools can you use to harness these situations? The vocabulary words in this lesson relate to the attitudes and tools we can use to respond to life's mysteries.

Word List

affliction

conventional

languor

ominous

aversion

coordination

novelty

trepidation

belligerent

impaired

EXERCISE A Synonyms

Each **boldfaced** vocabulary word is paired with a synonym whose meaning you probably know. **Brainstorm** other words related to the synonym and write your ideas on the line provided. Then, **look up** the vocabulary word in a dictionary and write its meaning.

1. **trepidation** : anxiety _____

Dictionary definition _____

2. **impaired** : hindered _____

Dictionary definition _____

3. **aversion** : loathing _____

Dictionary definition _____

4. **ominous** : threatening _____

Dictionary definition _____

5. **languor** : weariness _____

Dictionary definition _____

6. **affliction** : hardship _____

Dictionary definition _____

7. **belligerent** : hostile _____

Dictionary definition _____

8. **conventional** : traditional _____

Dictionary definition _____

9. **coordination** : cooperation _____

Dictionary definition _____

Vocabulary Power *continued*

10. **novelty** : unusualness _____
 Dictionary definition _____

EXERCISE B Matching

Write the vocabulary word that matches the clue or question.

1. If you hate clams, which word might describe your feelings about them?

2. The newness of something can be called this.

3. Which word might describe a physical or emotional burden you endure?

4. If you dread taking exams, which word might describe your feelings the day before one?

5. Which word might describe the dark clouds of a threatening thunderstorm?

6. Which word describes the vision of someone who wears glasses?

7. People who have traditional values might be described this way.

8. Which word refers to the scheduling teachers and administrators sometimes do?

9. The man in your neighborhood who's always getting into fights can be described as this.

10. A cat who lounges lazily in the sun all day has this trait.

EXERCISE C Antonyms

Write the vocabulary word that is most nearly *opposite* in meaning.

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1. attraction _____ | 3. improved _____ |
| 2. energy _____ | 4. encouraging _____ |



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Lesson 36 Using Context Clues

Emotions can be one of the greatest mysteries of life. Many outside influences affect our emotions or our state of mind. Different people react with various emotions to the same situation or event. The vocabulary words in this lesson relate to these mysterious emotions and to some factors that can influence them.

Word List

compassion

genial

malevolent

pressure

deplore

impassively

precocious

ruefully

detached

irate

EXERCISE A Context Clues

Use the context of each sentence below to determine the meaning of the boldfaced word. Write what you think that word means. Then, verify your thinking by looking up the word in a dictionary and writing its definition.

1. The community responded with **compassion**, offering support and loving concern to the victims of the tornado.

My definition _____

Dictionary definition _____

2. Candidate Saunders moved through the crowd, greeting everyone with the **genial** warmth and sincerity for which he is known.

My definition _____

Dictionary definition _____

3. Jenny sighed as she looked **ruefully** at the stack of dirty dishes and the pile of laundry.

My definition _____

Dictionary definition _____

4. Norton watched the proceedings **impassively** as the judge fined his company a full year's profits.

My definition _____

Dictionary definition _____

5. When salespeople phone our house, my father becomes **irate** and hangs up on them.

My definition _____

Dictionary definition _____

6. The club president disagreed passionately, saying, "I **deplore** the unfair effort to block his membership solely on the basis of age."

My definition _____

Dictionary definition _____



Vocabulary Power *continued*

7. The evil dictator carried out his **malevolent** plan against his own citizens.

My definition _____

Dictionary definition _____

8. The **precocious** teenager made a huge impression at the local art show with her stunning artwork.

My definition _____

Dictionary definition _____

9. How much longer can Sheila stand the **pressure** of working sixty hours a week at a job she can barely tolerate?

My definition _____

Dictionary definition _____

10. During Uncle Robert's surgery last week, the doctor repaired his **detached** muscle by reconnecting it to the bone.

My definition _____

Dictionary definition _____

EXERCISE B Word Association

For each group of words, write the vocabulary word that best fits.

1. happy, warm, pleasant _____
2. angry, furious, wrathful _____
3. separated, disconnected, isolated _____
4. unexcitedly, stoically, apathetically _____
5. spiteful, hateful, vicious _____
6. compression, tension, urgency _____
7. clever, bright, early-bird _____
8. mercy, kindness, sympathy _____
9. regretfully, sorrowfully, reproachfully _____
10. disapprove, regret, criticize _____

EXERCISE C Multiple-Meaning Words

Some words have more than one meaning. Each boldfaced word below is shown with two of its meanings. Circle the correct meaning to fit the context.

1. **pressure**: force; strain. The company put pressure on the farmers to sell their land.
2. **deplore**: mourn; criticize. The college which she endowed will deplore her loss.
3. **detached**: neutral; parted. The panel of judges must stay detached as they evaluate each team.



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Lesson 37 Prefixes That Tell When

Prefixes are word parts attached to base words to change their meaning. Several prefixes relate to time. Knowing these prefixes will help you determine the meaning of unfamiliar words. The words in this lesson contain the prefixes *pre-* ("before"), *post-* ("after"), or *mid-* ("in the middle, during").

Word List

midseason

postdate

precaution

prehistoric

midsection

postmortem

preface

prelude

midyear

posttest

EXERCISE A Vocabulary Equations

Use the information above and the clues in parentheses to complete each vocabulary equation. Then, write a sentence using the vocabulary word. Double-check the meanings in a dictionary and write the definition.

1. *mid-* + *section* ("part" or "area") = _____

Sentence _____

Dictionary definition _____

2. *pre-* + *caution* ("care" or "warning") = _____

Sentence _____

Dictionary definition _____

3. *pre-* + *lude* ("play") = _____

Sentence _____

Dictionary definition _____

4. *post-* + *mortem* ("death") = _____

Sentence _____

Dictionary definition _____

5. *pre-* + *face* ("the printed side, especially in a book") = _____

Sentence _____

Dictionary definition _____

6. *post-* + *test* ("examination") = _____

Sentence _____

Dictionary definition _____

7. *mid-* + *year* ("period of 12 months") = _____

Sentence _____

Dictionary definition _____



Vocabulary Power *continued*

8. *mid-* + *season* ("time period linked to a particular feature") = _____

Sentence _____

Dictionary definition _____

9. *pre-* + *historic* ("related to history") = _____

Sentence _____

Dictionary definition _____

10. *post-* + *date* ("assign to a day or time in history") = _____

Sentence _____

Dictionary definition _____

EXERCISE B Prefix Matching

Circle the letter of the prefix that best fits each sentence.

1. July comes _____ year in the calendar.

a. post- b. pre- c. mid-

2. The singing of the national anthem is part of the _____lude to every baseball game.

a. mid- b. post- c. pre-

3. Autopsies are done _____mortem.

a. pre- b. mid- c. post-

4. A part of a book appearing before the first chapter is the _____face.

a. post- b. pre- c. mid-

EXERCISE C Headlines

Choose five events or experiences from the past year. Below or on a separate sheet of paper, write newspaper headlines using vocabulary words to tell readers when these events took place. Try also to identify the event in your headline.



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Lesson 38 Using Reading Skills

Connotation and Denotation

The literal meaning of a word is called its *denotation*. The *connotation* is what the word implies in a particular context. For example, the words *stubborn* and *firm* have a similar denotation, but each invites different feelings. *Stubborn* has a somewhat negative connotation, suggesting a lack of flexibility. *Firm* has a more positive connotation, suggesting leadership. Try to choose words whose connotations fit your purpose.

EXERCISE

Decide whether the boldfaced word has a positive or a negative connotation in the context.

Explain.

1. My cousin treats his father in a **deferential** manner, seeking his approval on even the simplest decisions.

2. Mary has such an **effervescent** personality that everyone wants to spend time with her. _____

3. The month before exams was filled with **tumult** and anxiety. _____

4. His face had a **wily** expression as he proposed a new student council slate which, of course, included himself. _____

5. The police were able to **subdue** the crowd before trouble could occur. _____

6. Unfortunately, Stan has always been **squeamish** about snakes and frogs. _____

7. This morning I saw an incredibly **brazen** rabbit eating the plants under my kitchen window. _____

8. I skipped breakfast today because I think poached eggs are **repulsive**. _____

9. Lynn will not make a good school representative because she always looks so **unkempt**. _____

10. The state's education program is highly **adaptable** for students of many backgrounds and ability levels.



Vocabulary Power



Review: Unit 10

EXERCISE

Circle the word that best completes each sentence.

1. Hayley's performance at the track meet was (detached, impaired, malevolent) by his torn ligament.
2. Our family has (conventional, belligerent, ominous) values; we adhere to old-fashioned traditions.
3. We knew the (precocious, malevolent, genial) king would be imprisoned for his corrupt deeds.
4. Ellie (ruefully, impassively, tentatively) glared at the stack of paperwork that would keep her awake until morning.
5. We asked Claudia to (subdue, deplore, pressure) the excited dog before we brought in the new puppy.
6. The (precocious, ominous, conventional) warning of severe weather flashed across the television screen.
7. Jonas seems to have a(n) (affliction, aversion, compassion) to hard work; he disappears whenever there's a job to be done.
8. With great (novelty, trepidation, preface), Sarah appeared before the judge to answer for her speeding ticket.
9. Just as a (precaution, preface, languor) we carried extra supplies on our trip through the mountains.
10. The (novelty, languor, aversion) of the new toy quickly wore off and the children enjoyed playing with their old games.
11. Because of Jose's great (trepidation, compassion, aversion) for the homeless, he organizes the annual fundraising event for the shelter.
12. Kathleen can be (impaired, belligerent, unwieldy) when emphasizing a point.
13. Jim and Casey will return with the (midyear, midseason, postdate) report and predictions about the rest of the season.
14. Suzanne often looked (effervescent, unkempt, prehistoric) while her triplets were babies.
15. The (wily, brazen, repulsive) thieves faced the security cameras as they stole the cars.